



**Kansas Mentors Connection**  
**October 2009**

*The 2nd Annual Coaches' Challenge is halfway done and off to a great start! Thank you for your continued efforts to recruit new mentors and we can't thank you enough for all that you do each day!*

**COACHES' CHALLENGE UPDATE: October 2009**

Kansas Mentors is excited to announce that Kansas continues to hold the lead on the 2nd annual Coaches' Challenge. For the month of September, 1,394 new mentors were recruited; making the grand total 2,420 new mentors since the kickoff in August.

***The current score is: Kansas 2,240 mentors, Nebraska 592 mentors.***

THANK YOU, thank you, thank you for all of your hard work in recruiting these new mentors and we hope for continued success in the last few months of the 2009 Coaches' Challenge. Don't forget to check out the Coaches' Challenge website at: <http://kansasmentors.kansas.gov/Programs/Pages/CoachesChallenge.aspx>

**MENTOR RELEASES THIRD EDITION OF ELEMENTS OF EFFECTIVE PRACTICE**

MENTOR's keystone publication on mentoring standards has been updated and released to include the latest research and practice wisdom available to help mentoring relationships thrive and endure. This new publication includes six evidence-based standards addressing mentor and mentee recruitment; screening; training; matching; monitoring and support; and closure. Each standard offers benchmarks for day-to-day operations, and they are applicable in stand-alone mentoring programs, as well as programs where mentoring is one element. Each standard also offers enhancements that program staff can incorporate, based on the experience of outstanding mentoring practitioners. To check out the new resource online visit: [www.mentoring.org/elements](http://www.mentoring.org/elements)

**GOVERNOR'S POINTS OF LIGHTS AWARD**

***An Opportunity to Recognize Dedicated Volunteers***

The Kansas Governor's Points of Light Award Program, managed by the Kansas Volunteer Commission, is designed to honor those who have made a commitment to service in Kansas and are helping to meet critical needs in their communities. As many as three (3) awards may be given quarterly to recognize distinguished volunteer service by an individual, a group, or an entire Kansas community. Nominations are accepted on a continual basis. For application, visit: <http://www.kanserve.org/content/view/47/62/>

**SPOTLIGHT ON MENTORING**

***Mentoring Program Volunteer Receives Governor's Points of Lights Award***

On Thursday, September 10th, long time YouthFriends volunteer Harold Doerfler, went to Topeka to receive the Governor's Points of Lights Awards honoring those who have made a commitment to serve Kansas and are helping to meet the critical needs in their communities. Harold has been a YouthFriends volunteer since October of 2000. He has given over 1,621 hours to help our students and has graced our hallways in over 896 visits to five different Elementary Schools. He encourages the students to read and helps them find the joy in it. If a student is struggling in school or at home, Harold knows just how to comfort that child and give them hope to keep going. The Hutchinson News covered the story: <http://www.hutchnews.com/Localregional/doerfler>

### **On the Road with Kansas Mentors...**

From October 11-15 Kansas Mentors attended the **Kansas Leadership Center's Civic Leadership Lab for Mentoring Programs!** Several Kansas Mentors partner programs were also in attendance. This was an exceptional opportunity for all in attendance to truly challenge their ability to exercise civic leadership. To learn more about the KLC's offerings, visit: [http://www.kansasleadershipcenter.org/programs\\_home.php](http://www.kansasleadershipcenter.org/programs_home.php)

On October 20, Kansas Mentors was also present at the state's **Dropout Prevention Summit in Wichita**. This was a wonderful opportunity for youth-serving organizations, community members, educators, youth, and business people to come together to develop real solution to keep Kansas' young people in school. Look for more information to come on how the development of the action plan is going! Thank you to all of you that were in attendance. To learn more about this effort visit: <http://www.kansasdropins.org>

*Kansas Mentors is going social. Join us on:*

**Facebook:** <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Kansas-Mentors/41922213183?ref=mf>

**Twitter:** <http://twitter.com/KansasMentors>

*Be a role model. **Be a mentor.** [www.kansasmentors.org](http://www.kansasmentors.org)*

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